FD Report

Another MRAC FD is in the books. We operated 3A this year with one CW station, one digital station and one phone station. For the first time since I've been a member of the club we operated the transmitters from generator power. This helped our score reach a number similar to previous years even though we had half as many transmitters on the air! Our score? 3434.

The highlights of FD this year for me were two CW operators worked the CW station. The surprise antenna seemed to work well for them. What was the surprise antenna? A hexagonal sloper dipole raised on a 40' mast. See the picture.

Another highlight was operating on generator power. Both generators essentially ran the entire 24 hours with one refueling (one may have gone all 24 hours on a single fill…. we need to ask Larry about this).

I wish to thank everyone who came out. A special thanks to Larry Noldan NZ9I for helping with planning prior to FD and making a run to AES for feed line on Friday before FD. A special thanks to Tony Kolar AB9PN for setup work on Friday afternoon and take-down on Sunday afternoon. Without their support, FD would have been much less interesting.

The best accomplishment from FD this year is the prep work put in place for FD 2010. An inventory of the equipment on site at PV was completed. Many items that collected at PV that

had no business being there were removed. The radios and antennas used this year were stored in an orderly fashion and will be in working order when needed next year. Some of the equipment found in disrepair were taken from PV and will be repaired before FD next year. This will put the FD captain for 2010 in a great place for another successful FD.

AB9CD
2009 FD captain